



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

**County of Los Angeles**  
**Sheriff's Department Headquarters**  
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November 12, 2013

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**  
**30-DAY REPORT BACK ON CONTRACT COMPLIANCE STATUS FOR**  
**THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY OFFENDER MONITORING SYSTEM**

At the September 10, 2013 Board meeting, the Sheriff was requested to report back every 30 days on contract compliance and program updates for the Los Angeles County Offender Monitoring System (LACOMS) as provided by Sentinel Offender Services, LLC (Sentinel). The current status of the program is outlined below:

- On October 23, 2013, Sentinel representatives transitioned all two-piece monitoring devices utilized by station inmate workers to a single-unit electronic monitoring device as required by the new contract. There are currently 141 inmate workers being monitored at 22 patrol stations.
- As of October 31, 2013, the LACOMS is actively monitoring 28 female inmates and 4 male inmates at licensed community treatment centers where they will serve the remainder of their sentence, while being electronically monitored with a Global Positioning System (GPS).
- Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) members who were trained and received password authorization to Sentinel's secure web-based monitoring system, known as "Sen Trak," began to audit in real time offender GPS data for all inmate participants.
- Department members have conducted on site visits to all locations to ensure compliance with LACOMS contract guidelines.

*A Tradition of Service*

- The "Sen Trak" system displays the most recent monitoring information of a selected individual. The color coded data display allows at a glance understanding of curfew, equipment functionality, and zone conditions. The following alerts were received: low battery alerts and diminished satellite coverage at some of the patrol stations. No issues have been reported involving zone violations, equipment tampers, or absconders.

### **LOW BATTERY ALERTS**

All GPS devices utilized in an active notification format must be recharged daily to ensure proper operation. We have found that the low battery alerts being generated were being caused by insufficient battery recharge periods. With the support from the supervising deputies, inmate workers charge the devices as needed, thus the number of these alerts has greatly decreased.

### **DIMINISHED SATELLITE COVERAGE**

The patrol stations were designed with formidable outer and inner construction due to the nature of their use; we have seen instances of units not reporting in as required. With the concrete and reinforced design of these facilities, obtaining cellular service and/or GPS acquisition inside of them can be challenging.

To overcome this situation, all of the GPS devices being utilized for this program are equipped with Advanced Forward Link Trilateration (AFLT) technology. This feature allows for the device to report its location via true cellular tower triangulation if satellite coverage is less than optimal. This is accomplished through the device updating its location based on triangulation off of any cellular towers in the vicinity. Therefore, if an instance occurs where the device cannot report its coordinates through standard GPS coverage creating a late to test alert, the AFLT feature will provide the information through this assisted capability.

Should you have any questions, please contact Chief Eric G. Parra, Custody Services Division, General Population, at (213) 893-5017.

Sincerely,



LEROY D. BACA  
SHERIFF